



Fig. 2-3

LAND OWNERSHIP

THE BYWAY AND ITS CONTEXT Jurisdictions, Partners & Initiatives

Land Ownership & Jurisdictions

Land ownership and agency jurisdictional areas are important factors in implementing projects and initiatives under this plan. In Washington, DC, there are multiple agencies with review functions, as described below.

Figure 2-3 is a generalized Land Ownership Map, derived from the DC Office of Planning Existing Land Use data, National Park Service GIS data, and commercial map publications. Jurisdictional areas smaller than one city block and areas more than 1000 meters from Canal Road are generally not shown in this map.

Planning Partners

Planning in the Nation's Capital is unique among American cities because there are multiple levels of government oversight. As a result, activities promoted and supported by this plan will need to be reviewed and approved by many public agency "partners."

District Department of Transportation

The District Department of Transportation (DDOT), is the official scenic byway agency. DDOT identifies and develops transportation-related projects for the District's Capital Improvement Program and Capital Budget. DDOT also: conducts traffic and transportation studies; oversees streetscape regulations, improvement projects, and street tree planting and maintenance; sponsors a bicycle transportation and safety program; and constructs and maintains the city's roadways, curbs, gutters, sidewalks, and alleys.

District of Columbia Office of Planning

The DC Office of Planning is responsible for development review, historic preservation, neighborhood revitalization planning, and planning and design information technology. The Office strives

to balance economic development and growth, while revitalizing and protecting the integrity of neighborhoods. The Office prepares land use plans, including the District Comprehensive Plan, which is a broad, public document providing general planning and development guidance for the next 20 years. The Office of Planning applies the objectives of the Comprehensive Plan as appropriate for the eight wards of the city. The Canal Road Byway passes through Wards 2 and 3.

The Office of Planning's Historic Preservation Division reviews applications for DC building permits affecting historic property. Under the city's preservation law, the Historic Preservation Review Board must determine the appropriateness of changes to historic landmarks and historic districts.

District of Columbia Zoning Commission

The DC Office of Zoning serves the Zoning Commission (made up of District residents and representatives from the Architect of the Capitol and the National Park Service) and the Board of Zoning Adjustment (made up of District residents, a representative from the Zoning Commission, and a representative from the National Capital Planning Commission) in the regulation of land use and community development in the District.

The Zoning Regulations of the District of Columbia control land use, density, height, and bulk characteristics of property in the city. The District of Columbia Zoning Atlas consists of a series of maps identifying the designated zoning for all parcels of land in the city. All construction or rehabilitation on private land must conform to the requirements of the Zoning Regulations and Zoning Map adopted by the DC Zoning Commission or seek relief before the appropriate bodies.

Ownership Categories

Federal - US government lands developed with federal agencies and offices

NPS - Public land administered by the National Park Service

District - DC government lands developed with District agencies and offices

Other Public - government (Federal or District) areas not included in other categories. This category includes public parks, cemeteries, reservoirs, etc.

Private - privately owned lands, including residential, office, and commercial uses.



The National Capital Planning Commission logo



District of Columbia Office of Zoning

National Capital Planning Commission

The National Capital Planning Commission provides overall planning guidance for federal land and buildings in the National Capital Region, which includes the District and neighboring counties, cities, and towns in Maryland and Virginia. The Commission is responsible for comprehensive planning policies, oversight of federal capital improvements, and review of federal development proposals. In 1997, the Commission released its framework plan for Washington's Monumental Core entitled "Extending the Legacy: Planning America's Capital for the 21st Century." The Commission has also issued a Memorials and Museums Master Plan to guide the location and development of future commemorative and cultural facilities in the District and its environs. The Commission annually prepares a five-year Federal Capital Improvements Program (FCIP) for the National Capital Region. The FCIP contains federal public works projects, which, based on the Comprehensive Plan and other policies, are recommended for implementation in the upcoming five years.

National Park Service

The National Park Service, Department of the Interior, is responsible for many acres of public land within or near the Canal Road Scenic Byway corridor. The Service administers the Chesapeake and Ohio National Historical Park; one of the five park visitor centers is in Georgetown. The Service also maintains the Old Stone House on M Street. Roadside areas along the Clara Barton Parkway, portions of Canal Road, and other land reservations are also within the Service's jurisdiction.

Planning Initiatives & Issues

With all the agencies involved, many things are happening in DC that could affect or implement scenic byway activities. Government agencies and private organizations are involved in a variety of projects that promote scenic byway values. Several programs that overlap with the objectives of this plan are, as follows:

Memorial and Museums Master Plan

The National Capital Planning Commission, in cooperation with the Commission of Fine Arts and the National Capital Memorial Commission, has prepared the Memorials and Museums Master Plan to guide the location and development of future commemorative and cultural facilities in DC and its environs. In addition to identifying 100 potential sites for future memorials and museums, the master plan provides guidelines for accommodating these facilities, siting criteria, and implementation strategies. A central feature of the plan is an urban design framework for locating future sites that is based on historic planning influences, urban design considerations, and current planning and development initiatives. Candidate memorial and museum sites within the Canal Road corridor include: the intersection of Canal Road and Foxhall Road (in Glover Archbold Park); the northern end of Key Bridge at M Street (and the Whitehurst Freeway); and on the Potomac River at the foot of Wisconsin Avenue (in Georgetown Waterfront Park).

Washington's Waterfronts

The National Capital Planning Commission has completed Phase I of Washington's Waterfronts, a study that recommends development and remediation policies and identifies implementation measures for selected waterfront areas in DC. The study identifies six areas of potential development and conservation along the Potomac and Anacostia Rivers, including

the Georgetown/Northwest area in the Canal Road corridor. Among the objectives for this waterfront area are improved signage between the commercial activities and the waterfront, identifying waterfront taxi stations, preparing a streetscape plan for K Street, and completing the Georgetown Waterfront Park. NCPC will continue to coordinate the federal interest for this plan and work with the District of Columbia to complete a District, federal, and private sector plan to reclaim Washington's historic waterfront.

Georgetown Waterfront Park Plan

The National Park Service, along with a variety of government and civic organizations, has developed a plan for the Georgetown Waterfront Park. Creation of this park will preserve virtually all of the Potomac River shoreline in DC as part of the open space system of the Nation's Capital. In keeping with the adjacent historic neighborhood, this park will be a strolling garden with open lawns, informal plantings, curvilinear paths, and seating for park visitors. All appropriate federal and local agencies and organizations have approved this plan.



Memorials and Museums Master Plan



Conceptual Sketch from Georgetown Waterfront Park Plan

